

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 21, 2014
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Parker, Nelson Almeida, David Andrade,
Michael Brady, Gary Sagar

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Executive Assistant: Anne P. Rogers

Chairman Parker opened the meeting at 6 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

He announced that, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30, Section 20, anybody recording the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is recording the meeting both audio and video.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE

Mr. Brady advised that volunteers are needed on the Capital Improvement Committee, Conservation Commission, Cultural Council, Economic Development Committee, Energy Committee, Historical Commission, Parks and Recreation, Property Tax Work Off, Recycling Committee, Senior Center Building Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Sagar added that there is a vacancy on the Finance Committee as of today.

Mr. Brady urged interested residents to complete a talent bank form and submit to the Town Administrator's office for appointment by the Board of Selectmen or Moderator.

Ms. Rogers noted that there are two members on the Capital Improvement Committee. She has a talent bank form from one individual.

Mr. Brady felt there might be more interest in the CIC once the warrant article is passed at Town Meeting to remove term limits and to allow those that serve on other committees to also serve on the CIC.

Chairman Parker noted that some of the committees have less than a quorum; therefore, cannot vote.

LICENSE HEARING

Consider Application for Antiques and Second Hand Store, Best Estates New England, to be located at 70 Mink Street, June Coan, Manager

Ms. Coan was in attendance.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the application for antiques and second hand store,
Best Estates New England, to be located at 70 Mink Street, June Coan, Manager.

At this time, the order of business moved to:

NEW BUSINESS

Sign Final Executed Gude Street Regulatory Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To execute the Regulatory Agreement and
Declaration of Restrictive Covenants for Ownership Project.

The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye;
Mr. Andrade – Abstained.

Consider Appointment of Kurtis Gaw as Truck Driver/Laborer for DPW

Mr. Cadime advised that the position was offered to another individual, who turned it down. Mr. Gaw was the second choice of the three persons he interviewed with Mr. Lamoureux and Mr. Cabral.

DPW Superintendent Robert Lamoureux advised that Mr. Gaw worked as a driver for DPW during the winter. Mr. Gaw was in attendance.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Kurtis Gaw as truck driver/laborer for DPW, as recommended
by the Town Administrator.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2015 BUDGET AND WARRANT FOR JUNE 9, 2014 TOWN MEETING

Chairman Parker opened the public hearing at 6:16 p.m.

2015 Budget

Chairman Parker went through the budget by sections. He noted that the Board had reviewed the budget at least four times and Mr. Cadime had made an outstanding presentation. The budget will now go the Finance Committee.

Review and Vote on all Warrant Articles

Under Article 6, Mrs. Beverly Hart asked about the balance in the Capital Stabilization fund.

Mr. Cadime said \$949,757.32.

Mrs. Hart said she served on the Capital Improvement Committee until her term expired last year. She is familiar with the study. She said, at a meeting of the CIC on November 20, 2013, it was stated that the Hurley and Aitken roofs needed to be addressed in 2015, and the Martin School roof should be looked at. The thought process was the roofs should all be done at the same time. She felt those three roofs are a priority over a modular building. She noted this was a professional study.

Mr. Brady said that over \$750,000 was spent on Aitken and Hurley Schools and the Town is still paying the bond on both buildings. He questioned the need for a new roof when neither roof is twenty years old.

Mrs. Hart said a section of the roof on the Aitken School is twenty years old according to the statistics in the study.

Mr. Brady asked what was done when the Town spent \$350,000 three years ago. He has been asking for records and cannot get them. He said it is year 15 of a 20-year bond.

He said he would not sign another warrant until three independent people who did not do the work can tell the Board that the work was done properly.

Mrs. Hart said the study has not been examined enough.

Mr. Cadime clarified that the recommendations were based on School Department priorities.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To close the Public Hearing at 6:38 p.m.

Mr. Jim Roy of the School Department spoke about Article 6. He had information on the roofs at the schools. He had addressed the CIC a few months. He was asked to get prices. The modular building at the high school was listed under 2014. The price was \$202,428 to demolish two building and replace with a modular building.

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The primary reason for this article is the ceiling at the Martin School. The roof was never done in the renovations in 2001. The CIC wanted to look at all roofs. While doing the ceiling, it would only be \$8,000 to correct the roof (drains). That would resolve a puddling issue.

The roofs at Aitken and Hurley Schools were a priority but not on the warrant article. Martin School roof was put in 2001. It is a 15 year rubber roof. It has two more years on the warranty. The other side is a shingled roof.

Mr. Andrade felt it makes sense based on the price.

Mr. Brady had questions on the other schools. He was told by the Inspector General that when bonded it should be 20 year warranties.

Mr. Roy said that 10 year warranties were back in the 90s.

Mr. Brady said the RFP should have indicated a 20-year roof.

Mr. Andrade asked the cost of just the metal building at the high school. He did research to find out what the \$200,000 encompasses.

Mr. Roy said \$94,000 for the complete 40 x 80 sq. ft. metal building.

Mr. Sagar asked what the \$94,000 includes.

Mr. Roy said that company will come in and install the complete building on site. Concrete and electrical work will have to be subbed out.

Mr. Andrade said the concrete will be about \$40,000.

Mr. Sagar stated that Mr. Cadime and he met with representatives from the School Department. He felt the larger of the two sheds could be used after some renovations. It would be less expensive than spending \$202,000.

Mr. Andrade said he can't comment as to the interior structure of the existing building.

Mr. Roy said it would be nice to have a high ceiling if they redo the bigger building. He felt it could go either way depending on the Board's direction.

Mr. Brady asked for the price of the dump truck and fire truck

Mr. Cadime had a quote from Mr. Lamoureux – basic quote and options. Back in 2012, it was \$163,015 so it was rounded off based on percentage.

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Mr. Brady asked for an updated state bid. He felt they need to have a more accurate number.

Mr. Cadime said they need to figure out how much they want to spend on capital improvements each year. It became a little difficult given the fact that the CIC was not functioning. He agreed with Mr. Brady that there should be an accurate number for Town Meeting.

Mr. Brady suggested the figure for the dump truck should be removed from the article.

Mr. Sagar asked what exactly is being bought. He felt they need to evaluate the equipment.

Mr. Lamoureux explained that this is a large dump truck used for sanding and plowing. Two vehicles were taken out of service. He has a current list which shows the age of vehicles.

Mr. Sagar felt the entire budget process is flawed.

Mr. Cadime took full responsibility. He said the September 15th date will help with all inventory. His goal is to have better documentation for the Board.

He said the fire chief has given a \$700,000 figure to the manufacturer, who is building specs to that number.

Chief Jack had an inventory of all vehicles and repairs done to the ladder one truck. That is the vehicle that will be replaced by the new truck. He noted it takes almost a year to have an apparatus made.

He said it is difficult to ask a company to build specs which will take hours and then that company may not have the opportunity to bid.

Capt. Healy and he spent three and a half hours with the manufacturer of a vehicle – a rear mount ladder truck with a single axle and the ladder would extend at least 100 ft. They tried to do it with a smaller vehicle but it would not serve the Town. This manufacturer offers a two-year warranty on cab and chassis and the shortest turning radius of any vehicle of other manufacturers. The manufacturer is very confident that it could stay at \$700,000. The price includes manuals and full training by a technician.

Chief Jack and Capt. Healy went to a nearby community to see a vehicle purchased from this manufacturer and were very impressed. This vehicle comes with four ladder jacks that can be used in a tighter area.

On Article 20, \$223,876 for security enhancements for the School Department, Mr. Brady asked about the difference in this amount compared to the Capital Improvement Plan given to the board at \$99,830.

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Mr. Roy said the difference takes into consideration that the work will be done next year and construction prices are going up fast.

Chief Craig Mace advised that neither he nor anybody in the Seekonk Police Department is an expert in building security. He appreciates what they are looking to do. It would be an enhancement of four buildings.

Mr. Brady asked if it would be beneficial to the officers.

Mr. Cadime wanted to make sure that residents know that schools are safe.

Chief Mace said he does not see the enhancement as being a barrier.

Articles 18 is a transfer from the special education stabilization account. Supt. of Schools Arlene Bosco said they had to expend that money for unanticipated items.

Mr. Brady asked if it was for a student this year or prepayment of special education services.

Supt. Bosco said when they develop a budget they base it on the fact that they conserved monies over the year. That is put toward tuition they know will exist.

As of July 1 this year, they will be coming up with unexpected bills. There are regulations they were not aware of.

Mr. Sagar asked why not take the \$80,000 from the \$300,000 surplus.

Business Manager Barbara Hamel said they have prepaid tuition for years.

Mr. Cadime recommended that they drawdown the \$80,000 from the surplus. If they need additional money they can come back to the Board in November. Also, circuit breaker funds might increase.

Supt. Bosco said she would consider talking to the School Committee about this.

Chairman Parker said they could put this on the warrant and then indefinitely postpone.

Supt. Bosco explained that circuit breaker might increase but then the ceiling is raised. The rules change.

Mr. Richard Wallace advised that Community Preservation Committee members were in attendance to respond to any questions on CPC articles. He didn't know the funding source for Article 30.

Mr. Cadime said it was not anticipated for the CPC.

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On the CPC articles, Mr. Wallace explained that the property would be under the stewardship of the Conservation Commission and the conservation restriction document would be under another entity, more than likely the Seekonk Land Trust.

Mr. Sagar questioned how there can be oversight by a private entity.

Mr. Wallace said that the Conservation Commission oversees the land, but another entity has to hold the conservation restriction.

Mr. Sagar asked Mr. Cadime to find out from legal counsel if the P & S for the senior center purchase of land has to go through the 30b process and if there is any exemption for CPC.

Mr. Chris Zorra of 28 Colt Drive suggested getting a pumper instead of a ladder truck.

Chief Jack said they looked into using a double axle and they spoke to different companies. There is considerable increase in cost and to add a pump would be a dramatic increase in weight and cost. They felt as long as they could get the reach on the ladder that would be sufficient.

Mr. Andrade asked if pumpers would have to be replaced.

Chief Jack responded not initially. They are in decent condition.

Considering affordability, practicality and the number of firefighters, the ladder truck would be suitable for the town.

Mr. Cadime asked if the use time is low.

Chief Jack said they take the hours that the vehicle has into consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To move to Item C under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Reappointment of Robert Lamoureux as the Board of Selectmen Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) Delegate and David Cabral as the Alternate for the May 28, 2014 through May 31, 2015 Term

Mr. Cadime recommended the reappointments.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To reappoint Robert Lamoureux as the Board of Selectmen Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) Delegate and David Cabral as the alternate effective May 28, 2014 through May 31, 2015.

Review and Vote on FY 2015 Budget

With regard to the solar panels at the DPW building, Mr. Lamoureux said it was estimated the system would generate about \$6,500 worth of electricity annually based upon how much sunlight. The budget was reduced by that amount. Unfortunately, it has not generated the amount estimated. He felt it is about \$5,000.

Mr. Sagar said it will take 50 years to get paid back for a \$250,000 investment. It is a government grant.

Mr. Cadime said the electric line item for the DPW building was \$6,774 back in 2011. In 2012 it decreased to \$1,500. Then it bumped up a little to \$2,798 and this fiscal year as of the end of April is at \$1,500.

With regard to the question raised by Mr. Brady, the revolving fund is used for maintenance of police vehicles. Part of the revolving fund seems to be confusing the way it was broken down. Limits are set for the revolving funds. That one in particular says \$30,000 for the Police Department and the Board of Selectmen can spend \$60,000. That is confusing.

Chief Mace said it is for maintenance and purchasing of equipment for vehicles and could be used for purchase of other vehicles.

Chief Mace said he understood it maxes out at \$30,000. It was started in 2008 under Chief Charron.

He advised that, as of next week, there will be four vacancies, one long term illness, one coming back on light duty, one person out of FLMA, and another going out on FMLA in early June. That would be eight down. He has exhausted the list. Testing of 160 applicants will be on May 31, 2014. There will be a retirement next spring.

Mr. Brady asked about the reserve on the Sanitation Enterprise Fund.

Mr. Sagar asked about the \$100,000 increase on the health insurance.

Mr. Cadime said it is an estimate based on what was submitted and reviewed by the various boards. He will talk to Mrs. DeFontes. It is a 3% increase, which is low.

Mr. Sagar motioned, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the FY 2015 budget in the amount of \$45,612,314.

Review and Vote on all Warrant Articles

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of the FY 2015 budget in the amount of \$45,612,314.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To amend Article 3 to eliminate the \$30,000, Police and \$60,000 Board of Selectmen under FY 2015 Spending Limit and leave it at \$60,000 for Police Detail Revolving Fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 3, as amended (revolving funds).

Vice-Chairman Almeida called for a motion which was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To recommend approval of Article 4 (salary of elected officials).

The vote: Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Parker – Abstained.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 5 (transfer \$10,000 from the Dog License Receipts Reserved account).

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was

Mr. Andrade asked if there would be no benefit to getting a pump on this truck that would eliminate one of the other vehicles.

Mr. Almeida said that you could not adequately staff that vehicle.

Mr. Sagar said you would never get 25 to 30 years out of this truck if you used it daily And maintenance costs would be huge. He noted that Chief Jack and staff have been working on this.

Mr. Brady said it should be changed from \$111,000 to recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Chairman Parker cautioned about putting an X on a warrant article.

Mr. Cadime said in future discussions he would like to get away from leases. He would recommend to bond purchase it. The interest rate would be significantly less than for leasing.

VOTED: 3 Nays; 2 Ayes; To recommend approval of Article 6.

Mr. Sagar – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Nay; Mr. Andrade – Nay; Mr. Brady – Nay.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To rescind the previous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To recommend approval of Ai. (7-year lease/purchase of aerial fire apparatus).

The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Brady – Nay.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was

VOTED: 3 Ayes; 2 Nays; To recommend approval of Aii. (4-year lease/purchase of dump truck).

The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Nay; Mr. Brady – Nay.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was

VOTED: 5 Nays; To recommend support of Aiii. (modular metal building for high school).

The vote: Mr. Brady – Nay; Mr. Sagar – Nay; Mr. Almeida – Nay; Mr. Andrade – Nay; Chairman Parker – Nay.

Mr. Sagar wanted to postpone and bring it back in November.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was
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VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To recommend support of Aiv. (Martin School roof).

The vote: Mr. Andrade – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Sagar – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Nay.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend support of Bi. (transfer free cash for MUNIS payroll processing and replacement of Exchange server).

No Board of Selectmen recommendations on Articles 7 and 8.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 9 (disposal of surplus property).

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 10 (borrow in anticipation of revenue).

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 11 (transfer from free cash to Snow and Ice line items).

It was noted that snow removal was over budget by more than \$86,000.

No Board of Selectmen recommendation on Articles 12, 13, and 14.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 15 (amend by-laws – Municipal Lien Charges).

No Board of Selectmen recommendation on Articles 16, 17, 18 and 19.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To recommend approval of Article 20 (\$223,876 for entry way security enhancements at schools).

The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Abstained. He wanted more information.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 21 (liquor license conversion).

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOT ED: To recommend approval of Article 22 (amendment to CIC by-laws).

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 23 (fee schedule for licensing dogs).

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 24 (submission of inventory by September 15th).

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend approval of Option 1 in Articles 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To recommend approval of Article 30 (transfer from available funds an amount for rehabilitation of Old Town Hall).

Mr. Sagar would like to have all parties here next week.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was

VOTED: 2 Ayes; 3 Nays; To not recommend Article 30.

The vote: Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Sagar – Aye; Chairman Parker – Nay.

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; that the Board of Selectmen would make a recommendation on Article 30 at Town Meeting.

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The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Brady – Nay.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Warrant articles, as amended.

Mr. Brady would sign the following day. He wanted to see the amendments.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Reappointment of Steven D’Amico as the Board of Selectmen Representative to SRPEDD for May 28, 2014 through May 31, 2015

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Sagar, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To reappoint Steven D’Amico as the Board of Selectmen Representative to SRPEDD from May 28, 2014 through May 31, 2015.

Consider Approval of Regular Session Minutes of April 23, 2014

A motion was made by Mr. Sagar, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To accept the Regular Session minutes of April 23, 2014.

The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Brady – Abstained.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discuss Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman 48 Hours Before the Meeting

None.

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BOARD OF LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Sagar advised that the Memorial Day Parade would be held on Saturday, May 28, 2014, starting at 10 a.m. from the high school. There will be a brief groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the Veterans Memorial Park.

The Veterans Memorial Committee is selling T-shirts.

Mr. Sagar reported that the modular building for the Banna Fire Station was put in place today.

He asked the Town Administrator to establish a policy for submission of talent bank forms.

Mr. Parker asked what is it about the way they are handled now.

Mr. Brady concurred with Mr. Sagar that there should be a better policy.

Mr. Almeida said that he volunteered for the senior post prom last Saturday. He applauded the committee of doing an outstanding job of making sure all kids were checked in.

He said that last week he mentioned the school department budget of a neighboring community. Our school dep. Does a fabulous job with our students. His concern is at some time we would not be able to ask for money from free cash. We need to be proactive to come up with another way of revenue. Not just on the school side also the town side.

The chairman of the sc was here and asked us to show up at the school committee meeting. He attended and they were told that no questions could be asked. He still has concerns and questions. He will wait for town meeting and ask questions that will be answered. The School Department budget.

There was a teacher that had a good idea as far as school side for potential income. There were also two students there asking to keep their teacher employed. There is consolidation that can be done to keep that teacher employed.

Mr. Andrade thanked those who came tonight and asked questions. He said he hoped people didn't perceive his asking questions as fingerpointing. He was just trying to get answers.

Shawn said that as an administrator he doesn't necessarily take any questions personally. It is his responsibility to answer those questions. He felt the sc understood that.

Mr. Brady was at the Sc meeting. It is interesting when you listen to certain presentations. Seekonk spend less than the state average per student. In Bristol county we are one of the two top. It is all in statistics. When he put in Wellesley, Weston, Cambridge, and Boston that spend an inordinate amount of money. You have got to look at communities with the

They talked to parents in the parking lot. Parents said they will be laying off people. Right now they get \$32.1M for 2,011 kids. How muchmore can we give.

It is not the amt. of money. It is the expenditure you have to watch. You have got to address the problem.

Laying off people would be his last choice. In making cuts the front line troops should be the last cut.

Teachers should be the last to be cut. You have to cut from where it doesn't directly impact the classroom.

He said if they are cutting people from the classroom by necessity or by design. Gary said we are at 126% of the net school spending. That represents \$5M. which is \$2 on the tax rate.

We have always been very generous in supporting the schools.

Motion by mr. sagar, seconded by mr. brady to dissolve at 3:37 on video.